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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

15 MAY 1963

TO: Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Attention: Mr. S.J. Papich

FROM: Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT: Eerik HEINE, born 11 September 1919 in Tartu,
Estonia

1. The following background data on Subject has been developed to date through a variety of sources of this Office. As a word of caution, it should be pointed out that Subject himself is the ultimate source of most of the statements concerning his wartime experiences as reported in the sub-paragraphs below and there has been no independent confirmation of the validity of these statements:

a. Eerik HEINE, born in Tartu, Estonia, stems from Estonian stock although there is some German blood in the family background. He was first arrested by the Soviets on 28 August 1940 because of his participation in the organization of an anti-Soviet underground in Estonia. However, allegedly by claiming German ancestry, he was released by the Soviets in April 1941 and permitted to proceed to Germany.

b. In Germany he underwent military training as a member of an Estonian unit in the German army. In 1942 he returned to Estonia where he worked with the Germans ferreting out Soviet partisans behind German lines.

c. In August 1944, by then a commissioned officer in the German army, he was captured by the Soviet army while ostensibly engaged in combat against the Soviets as a member of a German military unit. By claiming that he was an Estonian who had been "forced" into the German army, he expected preferential treatment over that which would have been normally accorded a captured German officer at that time.

d. In March 1945 he succeeded in escaping from the Soviets but was recaptured shortly thereafter.

e. In July 1946 he again escaped from the Soviets but this time succeeded in returning to Estonia.

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f. From 1946 to 1950 he repeatedly fought against the Soviets as a member of the Estonian underground. He had effected a penetration of the NKVD through a girl-friend with whom he was in contact via secret writing; she frequently warned him about moves the NKVD planned against the partisans. In 1947 he purchased documentation from a Soviet militia (NKVD) officer. Though ostensibly a member of a "black" underground unit, Subject lived rather openly, traveled frequently, established many contacts, and engaged in robbery.

g. Sometime in 1947, after documenting himself as an "Estonian ballet dancer" (or director), he traveled via Leningrad and Moscow to Siberia (Tomsk area) where he "liberated" some six or seven Estonians either from a Soviet forced labor camp or from enforced exile. Enroute to and from Siberia, he frequently encountered NKVD checks but repeatedly succeeded in bluffing his way through them.

h. In 1948 he visited the NKVD offices in Vilyandi to request legal documentation in alias. He was not believed, was apprehended, incarcerated, and interrogated by the NKVD. However, he succeeded in "escaping" from the NKVD prison.

i. In July 1950 he was again apprehended, interrogated, and was sentenced to death; the sentence was later changed to ten years in a forced labor camp. He was then deported to a forced labor camp in Siberia. Some three months later he was transferred to another camp, further inland, after being accused of planning to escape.

j. In November 1955 he was arrested for participation in the activities of a "Russian underground movement" in a forced labor camp. He was interrogated through February 1956 at which time the interrogations were broken off for reasons not clear to him.

k. In November 1956 he was shipped to Moscow. Later still he was included in a contingent of repatriating German prisoners of war because he had maintained during interrogation that he was a "German".

l. On 26 November 1956 he arrived in East Berlin and later made his way to West Germany. At this time his parents lived in Canada.

m. Subject appeared at the US Embassy in Bonn, West Germany on 30 November 1956 to report his arrival in the West from the USSR, claiming that he had "deceived"

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the Soviets into believing that he was a German national rather than an Estonian which he is.

n. Subject was turned over to AIS when he claimed to represent the partisans in Estonia and a Russian underground "resistance movement", numbering some 70,000 individuals, within the Soviet forced labor camps where he had been imprisoned. Subject tried to persuade AIS to use him as a channel of communication to both groups and to render assistance to these anti-Soviet elements by furnishing them with the necessary supplies and weapons. The channels for this had been prepared in advance before his "repatriation". Also, he claimed to be in contact with a "knowledgeable source" within Soviet Estonia who could provide information on Soviet rocketry if the Americans would assist in activating this channel.

o. AIS found his story suspect and did not agree to participate in his operational plans. Upon being rebuffed by AIS in West Germany, Subject visited Canada where he married a "childhood sweetheart" who had obtained for him the necessary travel authorization to enter Canada permanently. He established himself in Toronto, the center of Estonian emigre activities in Canada; he now resides at 29 Ellis Park Road, Toronto.

p. From 1957 to the present, Subject has been active in Estonian emigre affairs in Toronto where, despite the suspicions surrounding him, he has passed himself off as a "violent anti-Communist". He has made one or more brief trips to the USA to lecture to Estonian groups in the NYC area.

2. The foregoing information is being brought to your attention since Eerik HEINE plans to visit the United States in May 1963 for an extensive lecture tour. The lectures will be presented together with a film which was recently made in Canada by an amateur group. The film is based on HEINE's life story and will be shown at various Estonian emigre centers throughout the United States. Further, a reliable source of this Office reports that there are indications that HEINE is using this trip in order to pave his way for immigration to the United States in the near future.

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3. Based on a thorough review and analysis of the case, it is the opinion of this Office that the story of Eerik HEINE's life is similar to the legends of other Soviet-dispatched agents. His attempts to interest American intelligence in his "contacts" with the Estonian partisans and in the "underground resistance" are typical of the type of classical provocation resorted to by the KGB in the past.

4. This information is reported for your information and for any action which you believe warranted. Any additional information which is obtained on Subject from sources of this Office will be immediately forwarded to you. At the same time, this Office will appreciate being kept informed on a continuing basis concerning the results of any action which you take in this case since they may involve other activities and assets of this Office abroad.

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cc: Immigration & Naturalization Service

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